

Listing of Claims:

1. – 33. (canceled)

34. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on a position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

generating an analyzed result of a structured document to be searched;

removing a pre-designated element from the analyzed result of structured document, and concatenating a content character string of a higher-rank element than the removed element with a content character string having the removed element to thereby generate a structured document for full-text search, and further generating information for restoring the removed element;

acquiring information on a position meeting a query to the structured document for full-text search;

converting the information on the position meeting query to the structured document for the full-document search, into information on a position of the document meeting a query in the original analyzed structured document;

additionally adding element information for highlight-displaying the information on the position meeting the query, to the original analyzed structured document; and

generating a text string of structured document for displaying, from the analyzed structured document with the element information additionally added thereto for highlight-displaying the information on the position meeting the query.

35. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 34, wherein when the conditions are met for the relative positions of occurrence of two query terms in a query, the respective query terms constituting the query are displayed in highlight fashion with different display formats from each other.

36. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 34, wherein each of a plurality of query terms constituting a query and the whole element including said query terms are displayed in highlight fashion with different display formats.

37. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 34, wherein a highlight display format for highlight display is set using a method specified in said query.

38. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 34, wherein the result of search is displayed in highlight fashion using any one of a plurality of highlight display formats for each query term.

39. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 38, wherein the highlight display format for each query term is determined based on the information on the occurrence frequency of each query term.

40. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 38, wherein the display format of highlight display for each query term is determined based on the information in the weighting predetermined for each query term.

41. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method according to claim 34, further comprising:

in said step of generating a text string of structured document for displaying, from the analyzed structured document to which the structure information for highlight-displaying the information on the position of the document meeting the query is additionally added,

producing a text string of a structured document for display of sub-elements to be displayed, from sub-elements of the analyzed structured document corresponding to the sub-elements to be displayed.

42. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on the position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

registering a structured document as a text including element information;

by scanning said text containing element information from the beginning of the text, performing a full-text search to the text skipped as to the element information included in the text to acquire a position of the structured document meeting a query and a position of the element information included in said position of the structured document;

acquiring portions of the text including the element information other than the position of element information among the positions of the structured document meeting the query, as highlighted display objective positions; and

generating a structured document with element information for highlighted display added to respective ones of said highlighted display objective positions.

43. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on the position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor,

a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

registering a structured document as a text including element information;

by scanning said text including element information from the beginning of the text, performing a full-text search to the text with element information included in the text being skipped other than attribute information to acquire the position of the attribute information among element information included in the position of the structured document meeting a query;

additionally adding the attribute information among element information included in the position of the structured document meeting a query to the content character string of the text to generate a structured document with element information for highlighted display of the position of the structured document meeting the query added to the attribute information added to the content character string.

44. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on the position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

scanning said text containing element information from the beginning of the text to determine whether or not a position meeting a query is interposed between a

specific tag indicating the start of a predetermined document element and a specific tag indicating the end of said document element; and

when said position is so interposed, additionally adding a character string including a character string of the position meeting said query to the content before the specific tag indicating the start of the document element or after the tag indicating the end of the document element, and generating a structured document for display with element information added thereto for highlighted display of the position meeting said query in said character string.

45. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on the position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

registering a structured document as a text including element information;

by scanning said text containing element information from the beginning of the text, performing a full-text search to the text skipped as to the element information included in the text to acquire a position of the structured document meeting a query and a position of the element information included in said position of the structured document;

acquiring portions of the text including the element information other than the position of element information among the positions of the structured document meeting the query, as highlighted display objective positions; and

generating a structured document with element information for highlighted display added to respective ones of said highlighted display objective positions, which element information is designated by said query.

46. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying apparatus for performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on a position of the structured document meeting a search result, said apparatus including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said processor comprising:

structured document analyzing means for generating an analyzed result of a structured document to be searched;

means for removing a pre-designated element from the analyzed result of structured document, and concatenating a content character string of a higher element than the removed element with a content character string having the removed element to thereby generate a structured document for full-text search, and further generating information for restoring the removed element;

full-text searching and processing means for acquiring information on the position of the document meeting a query to the structured document for full-text search;

means for converting the information on the position of the document meeting query to the structured document for the full document search, into information on the position of the document meeting a query in the original analyzed structured document;

means for additionally adding element information for highlight-displaying the information on the position of the document meeting the query, to the original analyzed structured document; and

means for generating a text string of structured document for displaying, from the analyzed structured document with the element information additionally added thereto for highlighted display of the information on the position of the document meeting the query.

47. (previously presented) A program for implementing a structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured document and highlight-displaying information on a position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, said method comprising steps executed by the processor, said steps comprising:

generating an analyzed result of a structured document to be searched;

removing a pre-designated element from the analyzed result of structured document, and concatenating a content character string of a higher element than the removed element with a content character string having the removed element to

thereby generate a structured document for full-text search, and further generating information for restoring the removed element;

acquiring information on the position of the document meeting a query to the structured document for full-text search;

converting the information on the position of the document meeting query to the structured document for the full-document search, into information on the position of the document meeting a query in the original analyzed structured document;

additionally adding element information for highlight-displaying the information on the position of the document meeting the query, to the original analyzed structured document; and

generating a text string of structured document for displaying, from the analyzed structured document with the element information additionally added thereto for highlight-displaying the information on the position of the document meeting the query.

48. (previously presented) A computer-readable recording medium for storing a program, executable by a computer, for implementing a method according to claim 34.

49. (previously presented) A structured document searching and displaying method of performing a full-text search on elements designated to a structured

document and highlight-displaying information on a position of the document meeting a search result, in an information processing system including a processor, a memory unit, a file unit and an input/output unit, comprising steps of:

- acquiring a position of the structured document meeting a query from a content character string concentrated with element information having pre-designated element information removed from the structured document;

- converting the acquired position into a position the original structured document meeting the query;

- inserting a start tag of highlighted display into the beginning of the position of the original structured document meeting the query and inserting an end tag of highlighted display into the end of the position of the original structured document meeting the query; and

- when element information is included in the position of the original structured document, inserting an end tag for highlighted display before the element information and inserting a start tag for highlighted display after the element information.